

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. For use in association with devices such as processors
2 and modems used in wireless and wireline access systems,
3 a backplane comprising:

4 a low tier that is capable of aggregate traffic rates of
5 up to approximately two gigabits per second; and

6 a high tier that is capable of aggregate traffic rates of
7 up to approximately twenty gigabits per second.